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The Peace Society, 47 New Broad Street, London, E.C., sends us the following:

#### THE NEW PARLIAMENT AND THE PEACE SOCIETY.

From a mass of letters from the Members of the New Parliament, addressed to the Peace Society, 47 New Broad Street, E.C., we select the following:

# SIR EDWARD CLARK, M.P., Q.C., Plymouth.

I am strongly in sympathy with the object which you have in view, and sincerely hope that it may be found possible to make progress in the direction you desire. Lord Salisbury's Government has done more than any previous administration to establish the wholesome practice of arbitration in international questions, and the precedents which it has established must be of great advantage to those who in the future strive to secure the peaceable settlement of disputes which threaten to lead to the horrors and disasters of war. I am strongly in favor of procuring a more effective parliamentary control over the military and naval departments, but I cannot help reminding you that the action of Parliament in this matter is almost always in the direction of increase, and not of diminution of the service-estimates.

## LORD BURY, M.P., Birkenhead.

It will afford me much pleasure to do all that I can to reduce military establishments, bearing in mind the position that this country holds in connection with other parts of the world, and I should only be too pleased to promote a policy of arbitration where it comes within the range of practical politics.

## SIR GEORGE BADEN POWELL, M.P., Kirkdale.

I hope in the near future that all civilized nations will bind themselves by treaty to decide by arbitration all disputes which it is possible so to decide. A High Court of Arbitration would, I think, necessarily grow out of such treaty engagements.

#### Hon. A. Brand, M.P., Wisbeach.

Let the Peace Associations devote their whole energies to forcing the great powers to agree, in case of dispute, to arbitration, and then "mutual and simultaneous reduction of armaments" will follow.

#### RIGHT HON. BARON DE WORMS, M.P., Liverpool.

I am heartily in favor of avoiding recourse to arms for the settlement of international disputes whenever this can be done by arbitration, or other amicable methods, without injuring our legitimate interests or detracting from our honor. This is the policy which Lord Salisbury's government has pursued, as during our term of office we have not been engaged in a single war, nor has a farthing been spent on warlike preparations. Such a record, I imagine, can hardly fail to commend itself to the members of your society.

#### J. K. W. Digby, Esq., M.P., Sherborne Castle.

I am strongly in favor of arbitration as opposed to war, when practicable. I only wish it could be all arbitration and no war.

# E. T. GOURLEY, Esq., M.P., Sunderland.

I have always advocated the policy indicated in your two questions, and, when brought before the House, voted with the late Henry Richard.

#### SIR J. KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH, BART., M.P., Clitheroe.

I am strongly of opinion that the estimates for the army and navy ought to be introduced as early as possible in each Session, and considered in as regular and business-like a way as possible. The practice of recent years has been most unsatisfactory.

# T. COURTNEY WARNER, Esq., M.P., Somerset.

I am strongly in favor of arbitration, and I believe that war in the future will, to a great extent, be avoided by it.

#### WILLIAM SUMMERS, Esq., M.P., Huddersfield.

I feel strongly about the question of the substitution of international arbitration for war, and quite agree that a prominent place should be given to it. I also agree that the power of declaring war, without the previous consent of Parliament, which is now possessed by the Crown, should be taken away.

# ARNOLD MORLEY, Esq., M.P., Nottingham.

I am glad to think that the public opinion of the country is gradually but steadily strengthening in favor of the adoption of arbitration as a means for the settlement of disputes, and is becoming more alive to the horrors of war as a means of arriving at such a settlement.

# A. B. Winterbotham, Esq., M.P., Dursley.

I am most heartily in favor of the views you have brought before me. Indeed, it is to me a matter of deep sorrow and regret that Christian principles appear to have so slight an influence on our politics. Let a man raise his voice in Parliament on behalf of peace, arbitration, purity of life, or against gambling, prize fighting, and the like, and he gets scoffed at as a Puritan, or smiled at as a fool! I hope I am not influenced by the contempt of such men, and whether in or out of Parliament my aim shall always be to Christianize our politics.

The views of the Parliamentary Candidates were elicited on the following points:

- 1. The establishment of at least partial Parliamentary Control over the Military and Naval Departments, by the earlier introduction of the Estimates in each Session, and their consideration on fixed and regular days afterwards.
- 2. The withdrawal from the Crown of the Power of Declaring War without the Previous Consent of Parliament.
- 3. The propriety of Officers in the Army or Navy, whose pay is included in the Military and Naval Estimates, being declared Ineligible to vote on these Estimates in Parliament.
- 4. Mutual and simultaneous Reduction by treaty of the enormous European Armaments.
- 5. The establishment, in conjunction with other countries, of a High Court of Nations, for adjudicating International disputes.
- 6. The duty of seeking to negotiate Treaties with the civilized Powers binding each nation to refer all future disputes in the first place to Arbitration.

Wisdom is better than weapons of war.—Eccl. ix, 18.